IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Noakuni INADA et al. Confirmation No.: 2324

Group Art Unit: 1796

Appl. No. (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/010490)

: 10/567,084

Examiner: Irina S. ZEMEL.

I A Filed For

: July 23, 2004

:POLYMER PARTICLE COATED WITH SILICA, METHOD FOR

PRODUCING THE SAME, AND USE OF THE SAME

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 24, 2008. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record in view of the following amendments and remarks. Inasmuch as the Office Action sets a threemonth shortened statutory period for response to expire on March 24, 2009, this response is concurrently filed with a Request for Three-Month-Extension of Time and the requisite fee. If any additional fees are necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any additional extension and/or claim fee, the Office is authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.